

CLAIMS

5 1. Granules containing at least one plant substance, characterized in that they each [comprise a neutral core having a particle size of between 200 and 1600 μm coated] with [a layer containing the plant substance combined with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient]

10 2. Granules according to Claim 1, characterized in that the neutral core consists of a substance chosen from sugar, starch, mannitol, sorbitol, xylitol, cellulose, talc and mixtures thereof.

15 3. Granules according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, characterized in that the neutral core consists of a starch/sucrose core in 20/80 mass ratios which is coated with 80% by weight of starch. *Claim 1*

20 4. Granules according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~, characterized in that the layer containing the plant substance contains a binder ~~such as~~ sucrose, polyvinylpyrrolidone, lac gum or hydroxypropylmethylcellulose. *Claim 1*

25 5. Granules according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~, characterized in that the layer containing the plant substance is coated with an outer layer intended to mask the taste and/or the odour of the plant substance, to delay its release or to control its release. *Claim 1*

30 6. Granules according to Claim 5, characterized in that the outer layer is intended to control the release of the plant substance and contains lac gum, PVP, a copolymer of methacrylic acid or of Aquacoat® with a plasticizer.

35 7. Granules according to Claim 5, characterized in that the outer layer is intended to delay the release of the plant substance and contains a copolymer of methacrylic acid, lac gum or Aquacoat® with a plasticizer.

8. Granules according to Claim 5, characterized in that the outer layer is intended to mask the taste

and/or the odour of the plant substance and contains Eudragit NE 30D®, Eudragit E 100® or hydroxypropyl-methylcellulose.

Claim 1

9. Granules according to ~~one of the preceding~~
5 ~~claims~~, characterized in that the plant substance is ~~selected from the group consisting of~~
~~chosen from~~ garlic, Echinacea, Ginkgo biloba, ginseng,
1 Harpagophytum, kava, St.-John's-wort, green tea,
valerian, Missouri grape, artichoke, hawthorn, burdock,
birch, alder buckthorn, blackcurrant, blessed thistle,
10 Fucus, Hamamelis, horse chestnut, balm, Orthosiphon,
passion flower, dandelion, horsetail, meadowsweet,
sage, spirulina and mixtures thereof.

Claim 1

10. Granules according to ~~one of the preceding~~
15 ~~claims~~, characterized in that the content of plant
substance is between 0.1 mg/g and 750 mg/g.

Claim 1

11. Process for the preparation of granules
according to one of the preceding claims, characterized
in that the plant substance coated onto the neutral
cores is in the form of a dry, soft or fluid extract.

20 12. Process of preparation according to Claim 11,
characterized in that the granules are obtained by
powder-coating when the plant substance is in the form
of a dry extract.

13. Process according to Claim 11, characterized in
25 that the granules are obtained by coating in solution
when the plant substance is in the form of a soft or
fluid extract.

14. Process according to Claim 13, characterized in
that the fluid extract contains from 30 to 40% alcohol.

30 15. Process according to ~~one of Claims 11 to 14~~,
characterized in that 5 to 25% by weight of organic
solvents are used.

Claim 11

16. Process according to ~~one of Claims 11, 12 and~~
~~15~~, characterized in that the size of the Neutres is
35 between 950 and 1400 µm, when the plant extract is dry.

17. Process according to ~~one of Claims 11 and 13 to~~
~~15~~, characterized in that the size of the Neutres is
between 900 and 1250 µm, when the plant extract is soft
or fluid.

18. Process according to ~~one of Claims 11, 13 to 15 and 17~~, characterized in that the percentage by mass of fluid extract used is between 15 and 25% relative to the weight of the granules. *Claim 11*

5 19. Process according to ~~one of Claims 11, 12, 15 and 16~~, characterized in that the percentage by mass of dry extract used may be as high as 75% relative to the weight of the granules. *Claim 11*

10 20. Process according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~, characterized in that the granules are prepared in a pan or in a fluidized air bed. *Claim 11*

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